

MEDIA RELEASE

Partnership to save water in 500 businesses

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A new water efficiency program run in partnership with Sydney Water and local councils will help 500 businesses across Sydney cut their water and energy bills.

NSW Water Minister Phil Costa today said Sydney Water would provide a total \$1.1 million to 12 councils to employ 10 environmental officers for two years under a co-funding agreement.

Mr Costa said the program would see each environmental officer work with 50 businesses in their local area on strategies to cut water use. The initiative is expected to reduce water consumption across Greater Sydney by up to 1.5 million litres a day.

“This is a partnership approach between Sydney Water and local councils to help businesses save precious drinking water,” said Mr Costa.

The environmental officers would work with businesses in areas served by:

- Auburn Council
- The Hills Shire Council
- Fairfield City Council
- The Council of the Shire of Hornsby
- Leichhardt Municipal Council and City of Canada Bay Council
- Parramatta City Council
- Randwick City Council, Woollahra Municipal Council and Waverley Council
- Council of the City of Sydney (two environmental officers)
- Ryde City Council.

“Each officer will individually assess water and energy use and waste generation in at least 50 businesses using less than 80,000 litres of water a day,” he said.

“The officers will identify opportunities for improving efficiency and will offer businesses owners ongoing advice and support to help them implement recommendations.

“By reducing water use, businesses will not only save money on their water and energy bills, but they can also save money on other running costs, such as chemicals, trade waste, labour and wastewater.

“The environmental officers will also compile valuable data on how different types of businesses use water, which will help Sydney Water to develop new water efficiency programs,” added the Minister.

The initiative is part of Sydney Water’s Every Drop Counts Business Program. For more information visit www.sydneywater.com.au.

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